

A TALE

In a Tub, Or a tub

LECTVRE

As it was delivered by *Mi-keele Mend-
sonle*, an *Inspired Brownist*, and a most upright Transla-
tor. In a meeting house neere *Bedlam*, the one and
twentieth of *December*, Last, 1641.

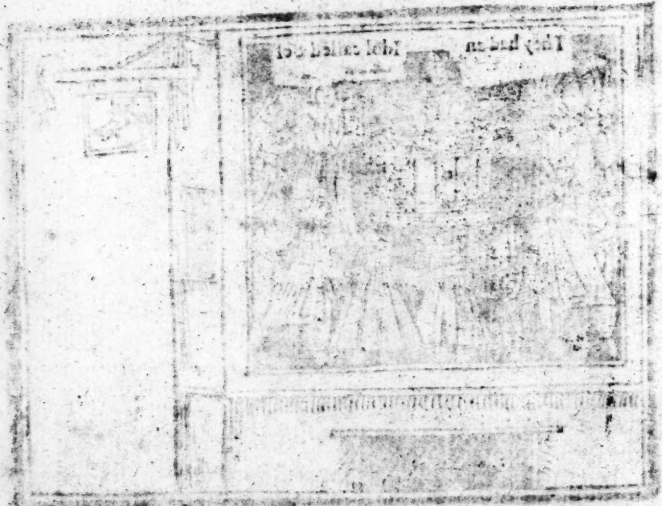
Written by I. T.



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Domineare 1642

A T A L E LECTURE

As it was delivered by Mr. J. A. Smith,
 and is now published by the same author,
 in a new and improved edition, with
 numerous additions, and is now
 published by J. T. Smith.



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THE TVB LECTURE.

A TVB Lecture.

Beloved Sisters, and my well infected Brethren, attend this text, as you shall find it written in the first Chapter of *Bell and the Dragon*, the third verse, as it followeth,

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll they called Bell, and there wert spent upon him every day, 12 great measures of fine flower, and 40 sheepe, and 6 vessels of wine.

I will first of all make division in the former part of my Text, I will leave the latter to the last, and expound that as I shall wax to the End.

Now the Babylonian had an Idoll they called Bell.

This sentence I shall divide into 4 parts, because your understanding my beloved Brethren, consisteth chiefly in the Knowledge of Divisions, the particles are these.

1. The Time. 2. The Nation. 3. The Crime. 4. The Denomination.

The Time, *Now*. The Nation, *The Babylonians*, The Crime, *had an Idoll*. The Denomination, *called Bell*.

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll called Bell.

First I will begin with the time, you must not conceive that it was 1. 10. 100. 1000. yeares agoe, but *Now*, at this present, *Now the Babylonians*, &c. Beloved there is much evill and abomination to be picked out of these three letters *Now*, according to the application of a deare deceased Brother of ours which you cald *Anthony Now*, *Now*, and cald he was from us too soone, yet the worst the wicked can say of him is, that hee dyed a dutifull death, and hee did but *Come when hee was called*,

but leaving our Brother as he hath left us, *I* will proceed with this word *Now*, *Now the Babylonians*, *Now* doth plainly and significantly expound it self in these words, at this time, this present, this instant, and never were people more strangely misled by fals teaching and preaching then now, you shall heare how many sentences or questions this word *Now* will answer me: When were golden Crosses, Images and pictures suffered to stand in defiance of the Brethren, nay even in the open streets; my Text doth answer *Now*, When were lying, scurrilous Pamphlets, which abuse the Brethren in prose and Verse, by the Name of *Round heads*, more in Fashion then *Now*. There was one who writ a Booke, intituled, *A Medicine for the times* where assuredly he doth vindicate that Pillar of Golden superstition, *Cheap-side Crosse*, calling us thieves who bare away the lead, because those limbes should not beagen set up by Idolatrous people, and when was this booke generally sold to draw the hearts of the people from us, but according as it is in my text, *Now*: but were he in our Conventicle that writ it, and he that printed it, *I* thinke it were convenient that all of us with one accord should endeavour to hang them to death, and were they here, no fitter time then *Now*: but sithence they are not present, we will defer their execution till wee can confidently say we have them *Now*: but because *I* will not trespasse upon your patience much longer: then my limited time, six houres, *I* will *Now* conclude this part of my Text, and proceed to the next, which is the *Nation*.

This Nation were *Babylonians*, for so my Text telleth me.

Now the Babylonians

Beloved, these *Babylonians* are a Nation that inhabited

221

(3)

red Babylon, and derive their names from *Nimrads* Tower, *Babel*, a Tower, which according to my Authors description, was a hundred thousand times higher then the Tower of *London*, bearing twice as many hundred thousand piece of Ordnance, for it was the intention of that proud *Nimrod*, to shoot downe heaven: amongst this Nation lived that grand enemy to our sect, *The Whore of Babylon*, a most fathomlesse Harlot, and corrupted every man that had any Part in *Babel* (the more sooles they) this *Nimrod*, was the first that ever taught Idolatry, for (as I have bin told) you know I cannot read my selfe, before ever the Art of carving or painting was, he taught the people to adore the fire, which expressed his hot zeale in Idolatry, it was onely their ignorance in arts, that kept them from setting up such a Crosse, as is in *Cheapside*: not long after *Nimrod* succeeded King *Abiages*: after his decease, *Cyrus* of *Persia* received his Kingdome, as you shall read in the first Vearse of this Chapter, and according to my Text is living at this present, for,

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll, called Bels,

And thus much shall suffice to have bin spoken for the second part of my Text, which is the Nation, *Babilonians*, now the *Babilonians*, I will now proceed unto the third, which is their crime, their Idolatry, their Image worship the Divell by this time had instructed them in the Art of making Idols, for so my Text saith,

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll.

This Idol was made of Brasse without and clay within, a brazen face, and an earthen heart, fill'd with corruption

tion and fraught with abomination. This word Idoll properly derives it selfe from Idle, which in signification, my attentive Brethren, is sloth, lazinesse, they would employ their times in nothing but making Images. He warrant you in those dayes a Journeyman Imag-Maker might get his halfe crownea day, doe you but censure then, my deare Assembly, how they flourished in their wickednesse, but, since they had nothing else to doe but to set up Idols, it shall become us to make it the busines of our whole lives to pull them downe: but take this caution with you, when you next attempt the holy destruction of that nest of idolls, *Cheap-side Crosse*, be not too violent, least you suffer as our Brother did, yet had he past the Pikes, he had bin living to this day. This Idoll in my Text, was Brasse with out, and earth within, a cheape Idoll to those in *Cheap-side*, for they are Gold without, and lead within. Beloued, Lead was not made to forme Idols with, but for the good of mankind, which is to make Bullets, and Tyle Houses, your onely way to confound this aforelaid *Cheap-side Crosse*, is to pull down to the ground, that old Idoll *Charin* and beat down this with the stones, that we may have no more cause to say.

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll called Bell

I am now come to the Denomination of this Idoll, they call him *Bell*, for so saith the Text.

Now the Babylonians had an Idol.

This notorious Babe of Idolatry, who hath to name, *Bell*, hath his Name derived from that generall enemy to mankind *Belzebub*, one whom we all know to bee the
Divell,

280
(3)
Deuill; this *Bell* was made of brasse, and that is the only reason (my beloved) that our Bels bee held so much in contempt amongst the Brethren. This *Bell* according to the text had spent upon him every day 12 great measures of fine Flower, 40 Sheepe, and 6 Vessels of wine; now who deuoured this flower? *Bell*, who consumed the 40 Sheepe, but *Bell*? who dranke the wine, so that there was a generall exaction laid upon each Pint and Quart, but *Bell*, or A *Bell*.

I have observed that there was never any good in that word where *Bell* had a share in't what was Adam *Bell*, but a hunter, so was Nimrod, who built that ambitious Tower *Babel*; I have heard with mine owne eares, those blades which call themselves Cavaleroes call a Crosse bard sword *Troy Bell*. What is a *Bell*-man but a night-walker (as I apprehend him) nay doe not your superstitious Papists curse the Bretheren with *Bell* Booke and Candell; was not that *Cardenall* an arch Heretick who had to name *Bell Armine*; doe not these persecuting papists in *Ireland* *Re-Bel*, yes double and *Tre-Bel*; and I hope there will be such an Equall uniformitie amongst us who are the select Brethren that no particular man may be said to bare the *Bell*: nor shall any man hereafter bee counted a man the founder for being *Bel-Mettle*, for *Bell* was *Brasse* without and *Clay* within.

Now the Babilonians had an Idoll called *Bell*, and there was spent upon him every day 12 measures of fine flower, and 40 sheepe and 6 Vessels of wine, beloved had I beene to serve *Bell* with this banquet I would have made *Bell*'s eares ring noone ere hee should have had it; now who doe you couceive should worship this *Bell*? noe worse man then *Cyrus* the King, as you shall find it in the fourth verse.

And

And Syrus worshipped it and went daily to adore it.

And it is thought (by some Authors) that this Syrus first made this *Bell*, if hee did, hee was but a Bel-founder, or at least the first that ever was a Bel-founder. I shall love a Bel-founder the worse for it all dayes of my life: I could proceed further and would but for feare of the law, who if I should bee too zealous, would censure this Lecture to bee a *Libell*, therefore, this shall suffice at this time, next meeting shall perfect the worke begun: repaire to your houses and consider of these sayings, Farewell.

FINIS

